

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 ERDA-05 EB-07 OES-03 AF-06 EA-06

TRSE-00 NEA-09 IO-10 /110 W
----- 002412

R 021152Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1710

INFO JUSMG/MAAG SPAIN

16TH AF TORREJON

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

CINCEUR

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, SP

SUBJECT: BASE NEGOTIATIONS: PRESS ROUNDUP AND CRITICAL
STATEMENT BY CORTES MEMBER

1. FOLLOWING COMMENTARY OF INTEREST TO DEPT HAS APPEARED
IN SPANISH PRESS OVER PAST TEN DAYS:

A. MADRID DAILY "ABC" (MONARCHIST) PUBLISHED EDITORIAL
TRACING EVOLUTION OF ARMS USED IN WARS IN PAST TO CURRENT
SITUATION WHERE U.S. HAS RINGED COMMUNIST WORLD WITH
"ATOMIC BELT" THROUGH BASES STAKED OUT IN EUROPE, INCLUDING
SPAIN. EDITORIAL MAKES USUAL COMMENT ON DESTRUCTIVENESS OF
WEAPONS, THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR SPAIN, AND OBSERVATION THAT
SPAIN IS TAKING RISK WITHOUT RECIPROCAL BENEFITS. STATES
NORTH AMERICAN BASE AT TORREJON IS SO CLOSE TO MADRID THAT,
GIVEN EFFECTS OF ATOMIC BOMB, IT MIGHT AS WELL BE SITUATED
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IN RETIRO PARK (CENTER OF CITY). IT IS A GIFT OF

INESTIMABLE VALUE WHICH SPANISH OFFERED TO POWER OF DOLLAR WITHOUT UP TO NOW OBTAINING "JUST AND GENEROUS RECIPROCITY". "FOR THIS, IT WOULD BE TIMELY TO REMIND OUR NORTH AMERICAN FRIENDS THAT 'COMPLAINT REMAINS BEFORE THE JUDGE'".

B. EDITORIAL APPEARING IN "YA" (CATHOLIC) PRESSES THEME THAT AGREEMENTS WITH U.S. HAVE BOILED DOWN TO CONCESSION OF BASES IN SPAIN TO U.S. SPAIN HAS FOUGHT TO HAVE SECURITY DIMENSION OF BASES AGREEMENTS BROADENED, MADE MORE REAL FOR SPAIN, AND RECIPROCAL AS WELL. THEY WERE BUILT TO BE USED, WHICH IN TURN IMPLIES A RISK FOR SPAIN AND CREATES LATENT ENEMIES. THE (BASES) ARE REGARDED IN PUBLIC OPINION AS A WARNING, A THREAT, A PROCESS SUSCEPTIBLE TO IMMEDIATE ACTION (OVER WHICH SPAIN HAS NO EFFECTIVE CONTROL). "FACT ITSELF OF CONCEDING MILITARY BASES CONSTITUTES A THREAT FOR ONE PART OF WORLD. LET US RECALL THAT WHEN WE TRIED TO GET GIBRALTAR BACK IF WE HAD SO MUCH OF A SYMPATHETIC INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCE, IT WAS BECAUSE OF THEIR REPUDIATION OF FOREIGN MILITARY BASES."

C. "INFORMACIONES" (INDEPENDENT) PUBLISHED INTERVIEW WITH JOSE MARIA DE AREILZA, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO U.S. AND FRANCE, TOUCHING ON RELATIONS WITH U.S. AREILZA STATED THAT WHATEVER SITUATION NOW, U.S. CONTINUES AS PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND MILITARY POWER IN WORLD AND CONSTITUTES A COUNTERWEIGHT AND CONTINUING WORLD LEADERSHIP AGAINST INCREASING SOVIET POWER. SPAIN HAS NO OTHER OPTION THAN TO GET ALONG WITH WASHINGTON AND MUST NEGOTIATE WITH U.S. LOGISTIC SUPPORT (FOR U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE) WHICH BASES PROVIDE. MOST IMPORTANT IS TO DETERMINE WHAT SPAIN CAN ASK IN EXCHANGE. SPAIN CANNOT EXPECT TREATY OF ALLIANCE WITH U.S. SINCE CONGRESS WOULD NEVER AUTHORIZE A PACT OF THIS TYPE NOW. THEREFORE ONLY AN EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT IS FEASIBLE. WHILE SOME MIGHT INSIST ON SIGNING AN AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD PROVIDE A KIND OF IMMUNITY AGAINST POLITICAL DANGERS, THIS IS NOT REALISTIC.

2. MADRID DAILIES PROVIDED COVERAGE OF RECENT STATEMENT IN CORTES BY PROCURADOR ALBERTO JARABO PAYA OF VALENCIA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN WHICH HE CALLED FOR INDEFINITE SUSPENSION OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. JARABO PAYA STATED THAT RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT IS UNDESIRABLE, GIVEN GREAT RISK TO SPAIN AND U.S. RESERVE, RETICENCE, HAGGLING, IF NOT INDIFFERENCE OR CONTEMPT. JARABO PAYA REFERS TO LESSONS OF CAMBODIA AND VIETNAM AND GOES ON TO CITE A LITANY OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST U.S. INCLUDING COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, MOROCCO, AND FAILURE TO BACK SPAIN IN INTERNATIONAL FORA.

3. MADRID DAILIES MAY 1 GIVE CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO ANNOUNCEMENT OF US/GREEK NEGOTIATIONS AND TO ALLEGED PRESS STATEMENT BY NAVY DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON APRIL 30 STRESSING IMPORTANCE TO U.S. OF ROTA. PRESS DREW CONNECTION BETWEEN DEPARTURE FROM GREEK FACILITIES AND ALLEGED NAVY DEPARTMENT STATEMENT.

4. COMMENT: MFA OFFICIAL (GARCIA TRELLES) COMMENTED TO EMBOFF THAT MFA'S RESPONSE TO THE CORTES REGARDING JARABO'S STATEMENTS HAD BEEN CURT AND PEREMPTORY, SIMPLY CALLING ATTENTION TO CORTINA'S BRIEFING BEFORE CORTES LAST DECEMBER (MADRID 8056 OF DEC 24,1974). WHILE GARCIA TRELLES' ATTITUDE WAS SOMEWHAT DISDAINFUL, OFT-REPEATED THEME THAT SPANISH NOW HAVE CORTES TO CONTEND WITH (IN REPLY TO OUR ARGUMENTS CONCERNING THE CONGRESS) PORTENDS MORE OF THIS TYPE OF ACTIVITY, PERHAPS ENCOURAGED FOR ITS TACTICAL BENEFIT. PRESIDENT OF CORTES RODRIGUEZ DE VALCARCEL IN SPEAKING WITH AMBASSADOR APRIL 29 DID NOT TAKE JARABO'S STATEMENT TOO SERIOUSLY. STABLER

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